(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). There is a warehouse at the Container Freight Station under the management of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC). As ascertained from Central Warehousing Corporation, there was only one theft during last three years of estimated amount of Rs.16,000/-. A First Information Report (FIR) was lodged by CWC with the police.

Calcutta Port

253. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a reduction in tonnags and in the number of ships carrying cargo at the Calcutta Port during the last several years:

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has also been a reduction in the number of workers and employees at Calcutta port and dock;

(d) if so, to what extent; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the working of Calcutta Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No Sir, there has been no reduction in tonnage handled at Calcutta port but the number of ships handled at Calcutta port has reduced.

(b) The details for the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	*Tonnage handled*	*No. of ships handled (in 000 M.T.)*
1986-87	12072	1400
1987-88	13071	1394
1988-89	14223	1364
1989-90	14689	1393
1990-91	15420	1366

The reduction has been due to increase in the parcel size.

(c) Yes sir.

(d) The extent of reduction in past five years is as under:

Year	*No. of employees in Calcutta Port*
1986	28414
1987	26849
1988	26431
1989	25702
1990	24846

(e) Following steps have been taken:

(i) Improvement in draught

for berthing bigger ships.

(ii) Modernisation of equipment for speedy handling of cargo.

(iii) Augmentation of capacity by construction of a new oil jetty.

[*Translation*]

Opening of New Branches of Nationalised Banks in Cuttack District

254. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks in the rural areas of Cuttack district of Orissa;

(b) whether the Government propose to open some new branches in the rural areas of this district;

(c) if so, the names of the places where these branches are proposed to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There are 165 branches of Public Sector Banks in the rural areas of Cuttack District of Orissa.

(b) to (d). Under the extant policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for opening of branches in rural areas, the list of identified centres with necessary particulars in each District has to be given to the lead bank of that District. The Lead Bank after consolidating the list received from all banks submits it to the District Collector for recommendations and onward transmission to RBI through the concerned State Government. Under the Branch Licensing Policy (1990-95), opening of branches of Public Sector Banks is a continuous process and hence it is not possible to project the number of branches that will be opened in the rural areas of Cuttack District.

Development of National Highways in Gujarat

*255. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals for the development of National Highways submitted by the Gujarat Government to the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the details of proposals out of them approved by the Union Government and the amount sanctioned therefor;

(c) the reasons for not clearing the remaining proposals;

(d) whether the construction work of any of sanctioned projects is being delayed; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Against the cumulative Annual Programme of Rs. 219.11 crores for National Highways in Gujarat relating to the 3 year period from 1.4.88 to 31.3.91, 164 proposals costing Rs. 127.34 crores were approved by the Ministry keeping in view the availability of funds and overall priorities.

(c) Out of the 12 pending proposals as on 1.4.91, 5 proposals have been taken up for approval during 1991-92. Remaining proposals are under correspondence with the State PWD for clarifications.